

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status of each claim that has been introduced in the above-referenced application is identified in the ensuing listing of the claims. This listing of the claims replaces all previously submitted claims listings.

1-20 (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) Apparatus for facilitating removal of at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object from a platen of ~~stereolithographic fabrication~~ programmed material consolidation equipment, comprising:  
a substrate including an upper surface and a lower surface; and  
an adhesive coating on at least a portion of ~~said~~the lower surface, ~~said~~the adhesive coating comprising a material that will secure ~~said~~the substrate to the platen during a ~~stereolithographic fabrication~~ programmed material consolidation process and facilitate ready removal of ~~said~~the substrate and the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object from the platen following ~~said~~the programmed material consolidation ~~stereolithographic fabrication~~ process.

22. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~the substrate comprises a material to which the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object will adhere during fabrication thereof and which may be pulled from the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object following fabrication thereof.

23. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein ~~said~~the substrate comprises at least one of polyethylene, polyethyleneterephthalate, and polyethylene ethyl ketone.

24. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising:  
an object release coating on at least a portion of ~~said~~the upper surface, ~~said~~the object release coating comprising a material to which the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~

object will adhere during fabrication thereof and which may be pulled from the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object following fabrication thereof.

25. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein ~~said~~the object release coating comprises at least one of polyethylene, polyethyleneterephthalate, and polyethylene ethyl ketone.

26. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~the substrate is substantially planar.

27. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~the upper surface is substantially planar.

28. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~the upper surface is contoured.

29. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising:  
a nonstick coating on at least a portion of the platen, ~~said~~the nonstick coating configured to be positioned adjacent to ~~said~~the adhesive coating.

30. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein ~~said~~the nonstick coating comprises a fluorine-containing polymer.

31. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating comprises a curable polymer which is tacky when in an at least partially uncured state and is not tacky when in a substantially cured state.

32. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating will not adhere to ~~said~~the nonstick coating when in ~~said~~the substantially cured state.

33. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating comprises a light-curable polymer.

34. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein ~~said~~the light-curable polymer comprises an ultraviolet-curable polymer.

35. (Currently amended) ~~A stereolithographically fabricated~~ An object fabricated by a programmed material consolidation process including a plurality of adjacent, at least partially superimposed, contiguous, mutually adhered layers ~~regions~~ that comprise consolidated material ~~photopolymer~~, the object comprising:  
an unfinished lowermost surface having substantially the same surface features as a lowermost surface of the ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object in finished form.

36. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 35, wherein ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface is substantially free of prefabrication remnants.

37. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 35, wherein ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface is substantially planar.

38. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 35, wherein ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface is nonplanar.

39. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 35, comprising at least one feature that protrudes beyond a plane of ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface.

40. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 35, further comprising:  
an object release element on ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface.

41. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 40, wherein an upper surface of ~~said~~the object release element which is in contact with at least a portion of ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface comprises a material that is readily removable from ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface.

42. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 41, wherein a lower surface of ~~said~~the object release element has an adhesive coating on at least a portion thereof.

43. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 42, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating is substantially cured.

44. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 43, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating is not tacky.

45. (Currently amended) The ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object of claim 35, wherein ~~said~~the unfinished lowermost surface requires no more than substantially the same degree of finishing as other surfaces of the ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object.

46-68 (Canceled)

69. (Currently amended) Apparatus for facilitating removal of at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object from a platen of ~~stereolithographic fabrication~~ programmed material consolidation equipment, comprising:  
a substrate including an upper surface and a lower surface and comprising a material to which the  
at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object will adhere during fabrication thereof  
and which may be pulled from the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object  
following fabrication thereof.

70. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein ~~said~~the substrate  
comprises at least one of polyethylene, polyethyleneterephthalate, and polyethylene ethyl ketone.

71. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 69, further comprising:  
an object release coating on at least a portion of ~~said~~the upper surface, ~~said~~the object release  
coating comprising a material to which the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~  
object will adhere during fabrication thereof and which may be pulled from the at least one  
~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object following fabrication thereof.

72. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 71, wherein ~~said~~the object release  
coating comprises at least one of polyethylene, polyethyleneterephthalate, and polyethylene ethyl  
ketone.

73. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein ~~said~~the substrate is  
substantially planar.

74. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein ~~said~~the upper surface is  
substantially planar.

75. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein ~~said~~the upper surface is  
contoured.

76. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 69, further comprising:  
an adhesive coating on at least a portion of ~~said~~the lower surface, ~~said~~the adhesive coating comprising a material that will secure ~~said~~the substrate to the platen during a ~~stereolithographic fabrication~~ programmed material consolidation process and facilitate ready removal of ~~said~~the substrate and the at least one ~~stereolithographically fabricated~~ object from the platen following ~~said~~ stereolithographic fabrication ~~the~~ the programmed material consolidation process

77. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 76, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating comprises a curable polymer which is tacky when in an at least partially uncured state and is not tacky when in a substantially cured state.

78. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 77, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating will not adhere to ~~said~~the nonstick coating when in ~~said~~the substantially cured state.

79. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 77, wherein ~~said~~the adhesive coating comprises a light-curable polymer.

80. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 79, wherein ~~said~~the light-curable polymer comprises an ultraviolet-curable polymer.

81. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein ~~said~~the lower surface is configured to be secured to a surface of the platen as negative pressure is applied thereto through the platen.

82. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 81, wherein ~~said~~the lower surface is configured to seal against the surface of the platen as the negative pressure is applied thereto.

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83-91 (Canceled)